

Board of Registration in Optometry Continuing Education

246 CMR 2.01 (3) 1

Board regulations require that an optometrist must complete 18 hours of Board-approved continuing education as a condition of annual license renewal. Courses earned in the 13 months preceding the annual license renewal date of February 1st may be used for the required CE credits.

For a continuing education program to be acceptable for the purposes of license renewal, the following conditions apply:

- "Live" continuing education (CE) programs offered outside of Massachusetts must be approved by the Council on Optometric Continuing Education (C.O.P.E.)
- "Live" CE programs offered within Massachusetts and that exceed four (4) hours must be C.O.P.E. approved
- "Live" CE courses or programs that are four (4) hours or less, and that are not C.O.P.E. approved may be submitted to the Board for approval
 1. A written application for Board approval must be submitted at least 60 days prior to the course date
 2. The application must include the name of the sponsor; a detailed outline of the course material; the speaker's curriculum vitae; the course time and location; provisions for adequate monitoring of attendance; and satisfactory assurances that the course is generally available to all optometrists
- No more than four (4) CE hours for the purposes of license renewal may be taken via distance learning technology
- Neither C.O.P.E. approval nor Board approval are required for courses or programs offered for CE credit by the following Board-approved entities:
 - New England College of Optometry
 - Boston University School of medicine
 - MA Eye and Ear Infirmary (Harvard University School of Medicine/ Department of Ophthalmology)
 - New England Eye Center (Tufts University School of Medicine)
- Approved CE courses are listed on the C.O.P.E. web site @
<http://www.arbo.org/cope/>